

CHAPTER 5
THE CASE OF THE MT. KURAMA
ESTATE INHERITANCE (PART 1)





Today
we're taking
the Eizan
Railway out
of Demachi-
yanagi
Station.

We're
going
hiking
on Mt.
Kurama.

出町柳駅

Demachiyanagi Station

데마치야나기역

GOOD
MORNING,
AOI-SAN.

It'll be
me and
Holmes-
san.

And by
"we," I
mean...

Are we
going on
a date?

G-GOOD
MORNING.



NOT AT ALL.

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO VISIT MT. KURAMA.



I'M SORRY, AOI-SAN.

FORCING YOU TO COME ALONG ON MORE OF MY BUSINESS...

Of course not.



KURAMA? TOMORROW?

KIYO-TAKA.

I'M SORRY IT'S SO SUDDEN, BUT COULD YOU GO TO KURAMA TOMORROW?



AH... THAT'S RIGHT. HE HAD A VILLA ON KURAMA.

AND HIS FAMILY WANTS MY... ADVICE?

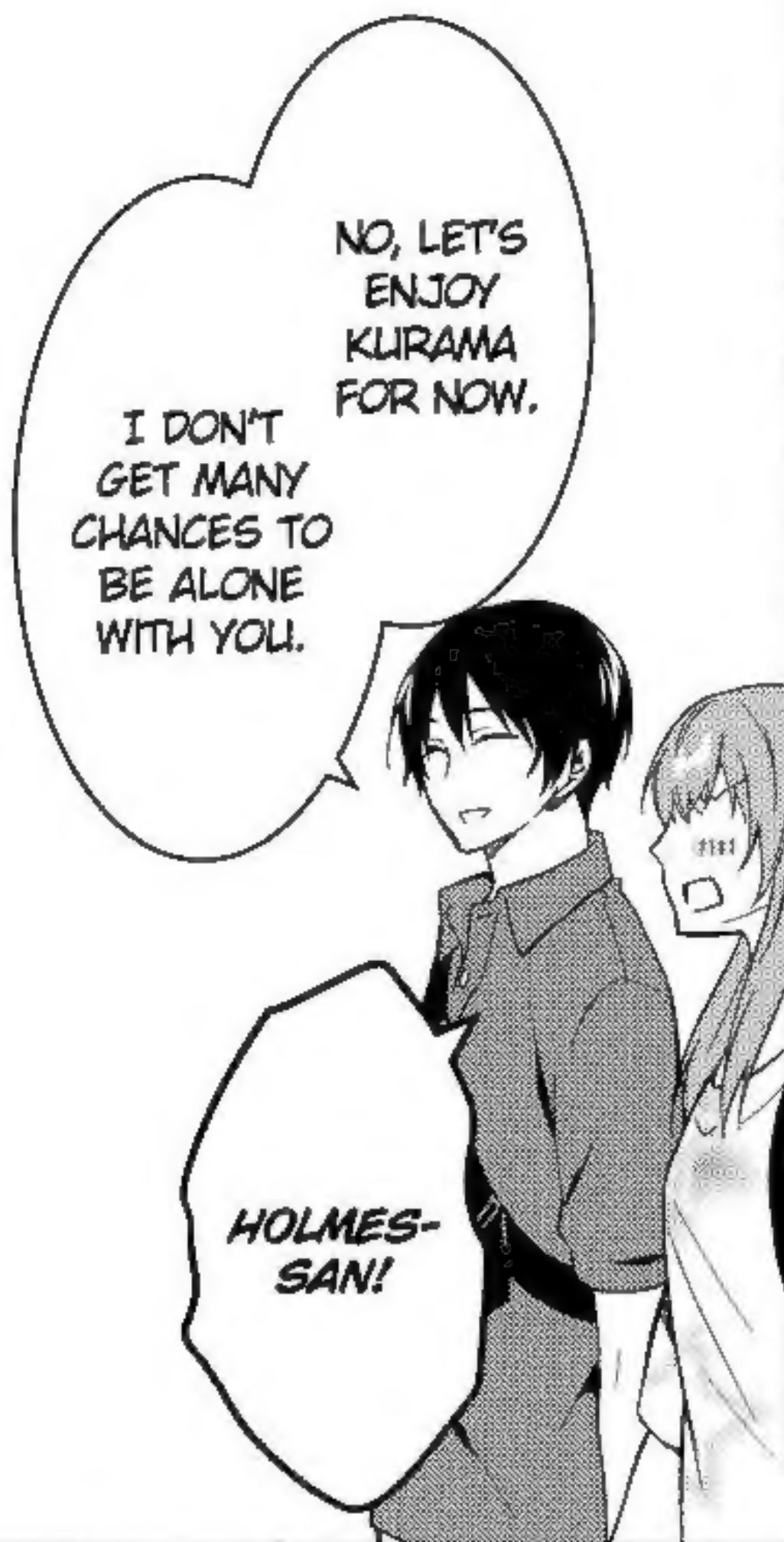
HIS FAMILY NEEDS YOUR ADVICE ON SOMETHING.

YOU REMEMBER KAJIWARA-SENSEI WHO PASSED AWAY THREE MONTHS AGO?



Those are famous!





I DON'T
GET MANY
CHANCES TO
BE ALONE
WITH YOU.

NO, LET'S
ENJOY
KURAMA
FOR NOW.

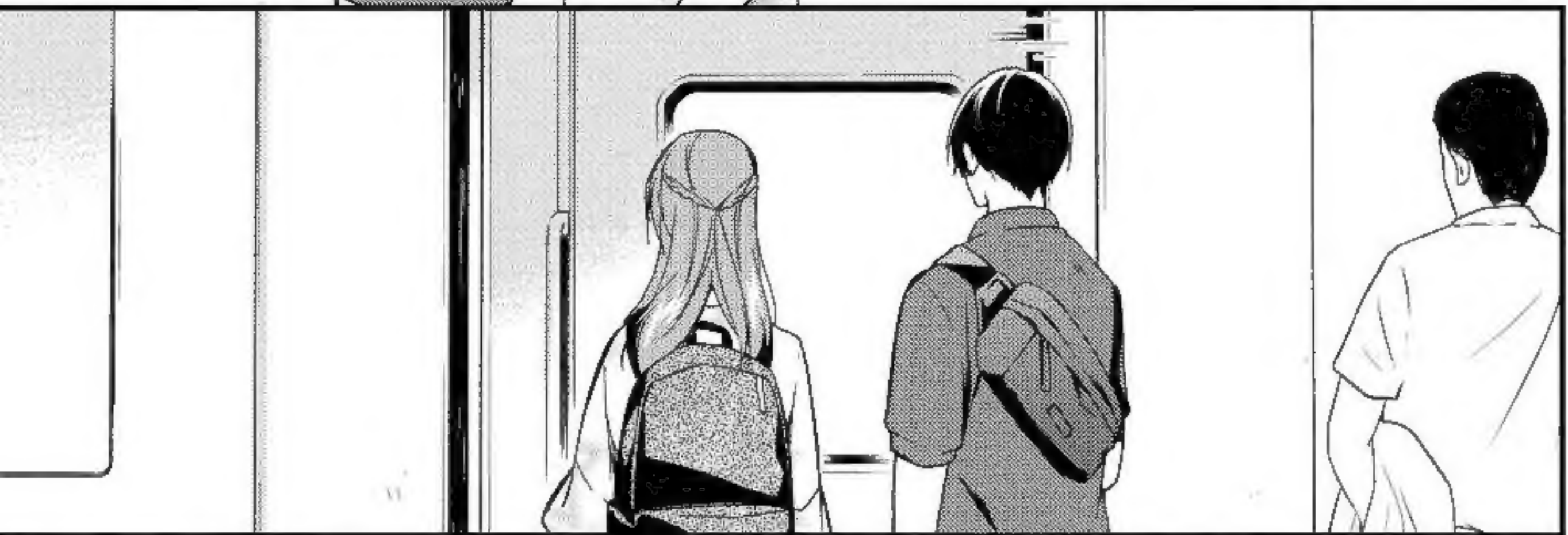
HOLMES-
SAN!



YOU, UM...
DON'T SEEM
VERY EXCITED
ABOUT IT.

ARE YOU
REALLY
OKAY WITH
THIS,
HOLMES-
SAN?

WELL,
I...



OH,
WOW!



SEE THAT
HEART-
SHAPED
STRAP?

AOI-SAN.

?



THEY SAY
THAT IF YOU
GRAB IT, YOUR
LOVE WILL BE
RETURNED.



THERE'S
ONLY ONE
OF THOSE
BETWEEN
ALL OF
THE EIZAN
RAILWAY
CARS.

WE'RE
VERY
LUCKY.

LOVE
...?



YOU'RE
SURE?



I'D
BETTER
NOT FOR
NOW.



I SEE...



I'VE
GRABBED IT
BEFORE.



WHAT
ABOUT YOU,
HOLMES-
SAN?



...WAS STOLEN
BY A MAN WHO
WAS MY PRECISE
OPPOSITE—AN
ARROGANT,
OVERBEARING
OSAKAN.

MY HIGH
SCHOOL
GIRL-
FRIEND...

GASP

Yes

W-WAS THIS
OVER THE
GIRLFRIEND HE
MENTIONED
BEFORE?!

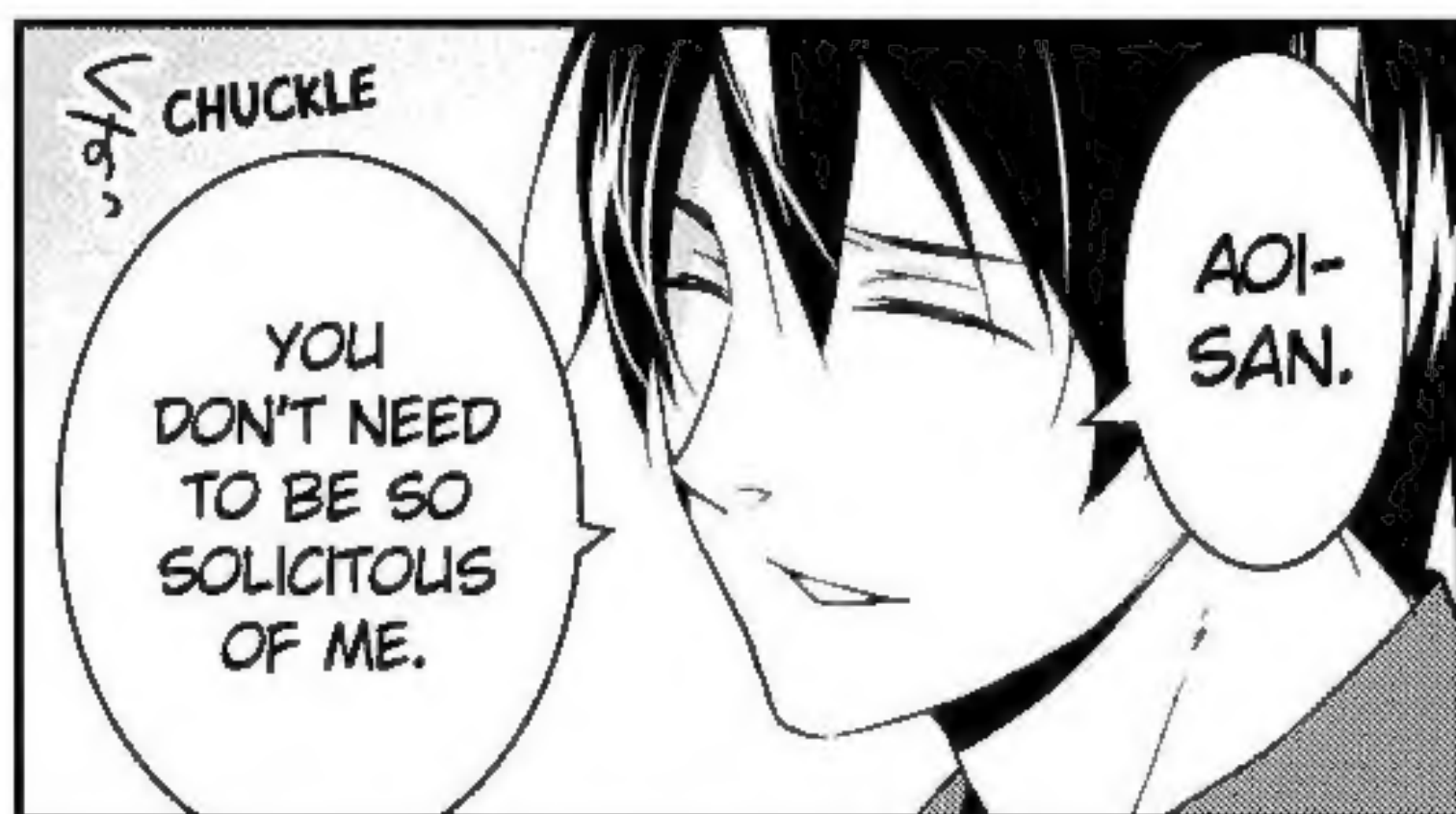


IT WAS MY
THIRD YEAR
OF HIGH
SCHOOL...

A GIRL IN MY
CLASS ASKED
ME OUT, AND
WE STARTED
DATING.



I
HAVEN'T
ASKED HIM
ANY MORE
ABOUT IT
SINCE
THEN...



Yes
CHUCKLE

YOU
DON'T NEED
TO BE SO
SOLICITOUS
OF ME.

AOI-
SAN.



BUT
LOOKING
BACK NOW,
IT WAS
THE WORST
THING I
COULD HAVE
DONE.

I
THOUGHT
I WAS
RESPECTING
HER IN
MY OWN
EARNEST
WAY...

WE STUDIED
TOGETHER AND
SUCH, BUT OUR
RELATIONSHIP
WAS CHASTE.

BUT
WE WERE
ALSO IN THE
PROCESS
OF TAKING
UNIVERSITY
ENTRANCE
EXAMS, SO
WE KEPT
THINGS
LOW-KEY.

WE WERE
LIKE ANY
ORDINARY
COUPLE.



AND IN NO
TIME AT ALL,
HE'D SWEEPED
HER OFF
HER FEET.

THERE,
SHE MET AN
OVERBEARING
OSAKAN.

SHE WAS
INVITED BY
FRIENDS TO
A MIXER.

SHORTLY
AFTER WE
BEGAN UNI-
VERSITY,



AND
SINCE SHE
COULDN'T
TELL ME
THAT... WE
WERE
UNABLE TO
CONNECT.

IN
THE END, MY
CAUTION HAD
SIMPLY BEEN
ISOLATING.

THAT SHE
CONSTANTLY
FELT IN-
SECURE.

SHE
SAID THAT
MY BEHAVIOR
LEFT HER
WANTING.



ACTUALLY,
THAT'S NOT
THE END OF
THE STORY.

THERE'S
MORE?



...IF SANAЕ
ALSO FELT
LIKE THERE
WERE THINGS
SHE COULDN'T
TELL ME.

I
WONDER...

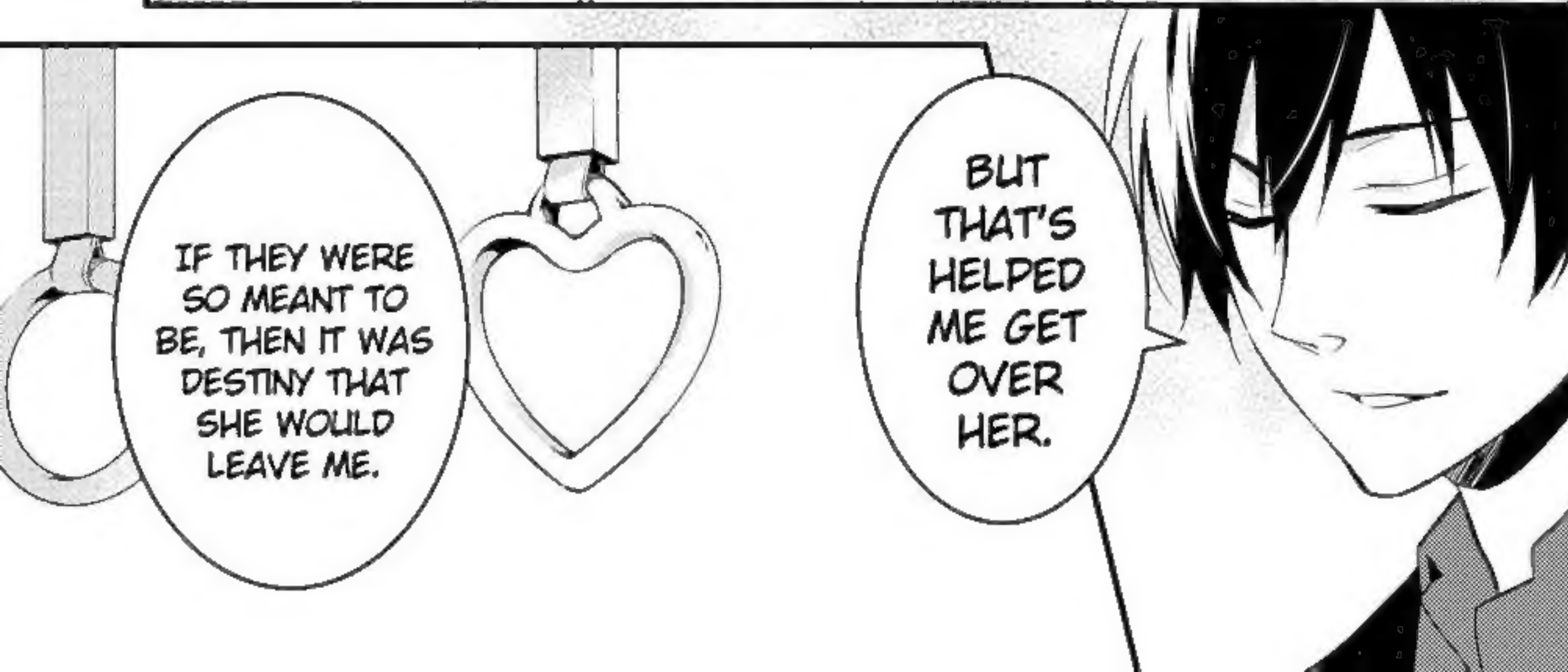


DONG

WHAT?!

SHE'S
NOW GOING TO
MARRY THAT
OVERBEARING
OSAKAN.

DING



IF THEY WERE
SO MEANT TO
BE, THEN IT WAS
DESTINY THAT
SHE WOULD
LEAVE ME.

BUT
THAT'S
HELPED
ME GET
OVER
HER.



I'VE
DECIDED
NOT TO
GO TO
SAITAMA.



HOLMES-
SAN...



DO I REALLY
WANT TO
UNLEASH ALL
MY JUMBLED
FEELINGS ON
THEM?



I'VE BEEN
THINKING
FOR
A WHILE
NOW...

DO
I STILL
REALLY
WANT
TO SEE
THEM?





I DON'T
WANT TO
WASTE IT ON
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.

I'VE
WORKED
REALLY
HARD TO
SAVE UP
THE
MONEY.



YOU
KNOW?

GOING OUT
AND DOING
ALL SORTS
OF AMAZING
THINGS...

I'D MUCH
RATHER USE
IT FOR
ADVENTURES
LIKE TODAY.



I FEEL
LIKE I
NEED...

...TO FIGURE
OUT THOSE
FEELINGS
FOR MYSELF
FIRST.

AT LEAST,
THAT'S WHAT
I'M THINKING
NOW.



YEAH!

THEN LET
US ENJOY
OURSELVES
THOROUGHLY
ON KURAMA
TODAY,
AOI-SAN.

鞍馬

KURAMA



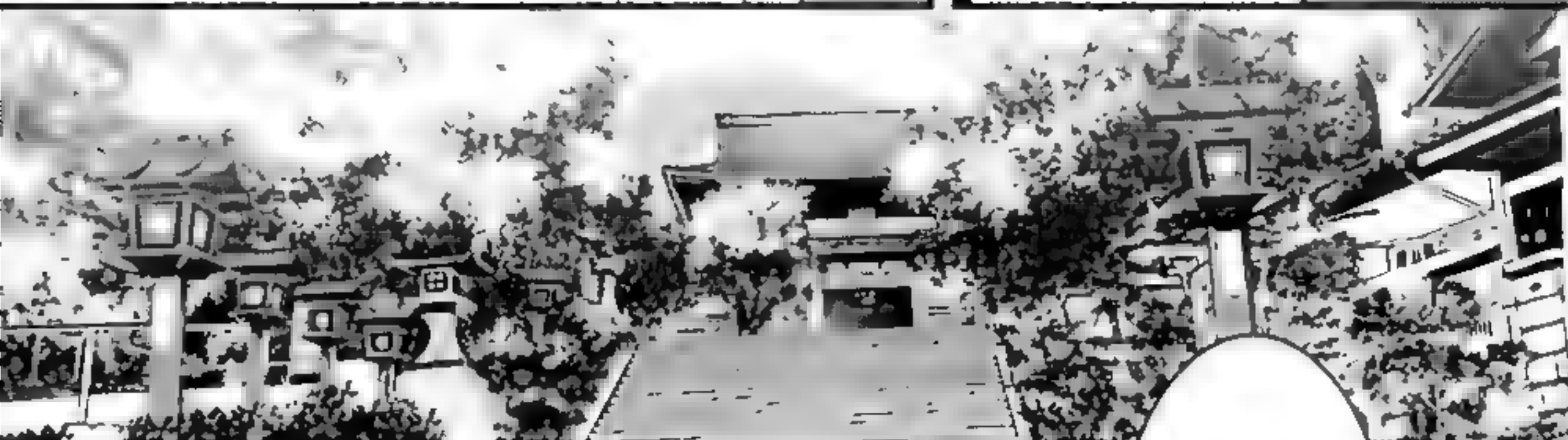
WHAT
A BIG
TENGU
FACE!

IT'LL BE
QUITE A BIT OF
WALKING, SO LET
ME KNOW THE
MINUTE YOU
START GETTING
TIRED.

LET'S
GO FROM
KURAMADERA
TEMPLE DOWN
THE ROOT PATH
TO KIFUNE
SHRINE.



KURAMA IS
ASSOCIATED
WITH TENGU
AND USHIWA-
KAMARU.



UM... HE
WAS RAISED ON
MT. KURAMA,
RIGHT?



DO YOU
KNOW THE
STORY OF
USHIWAKA-
MARU?



AND THERE
WAS A HIGH
PROBABILITY THAT
THEY WOULD
KILL HIS YOUNG
CHILDREN AS
WELL.

HIS FATHER,
YOSHITOMO,
WAS KILLED
BY THE
HEIKE,



USHIWAKAMARU
WAS THE THIRD
SON OF THE GENJI
GENERAL MINAMOTO
NO YOSHITOMO AND
TOKIWA GOZEN.



SHE
BECAME A
MISTRESS TO
AN ENEMY
GENERAL?

SO TO
SAVE HER
CHILDREN,



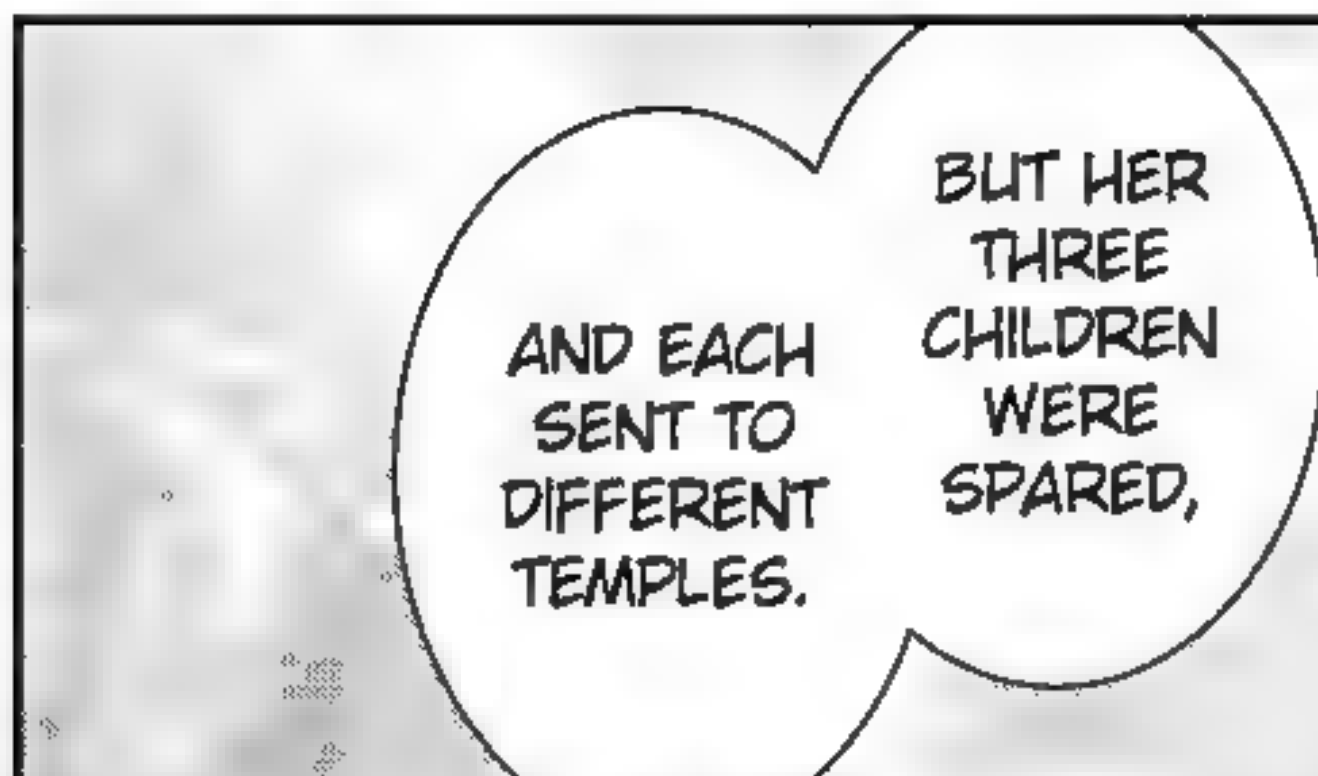
OF COURSE,
I DON'T KNOW
HOW TRUE THE
STORY IS...



BUT
LISHIWAKAMARU'S
MOTHER, TOKIWA
GOZEN, WAS A
VERY BEAUTIFUL
WOMAN.

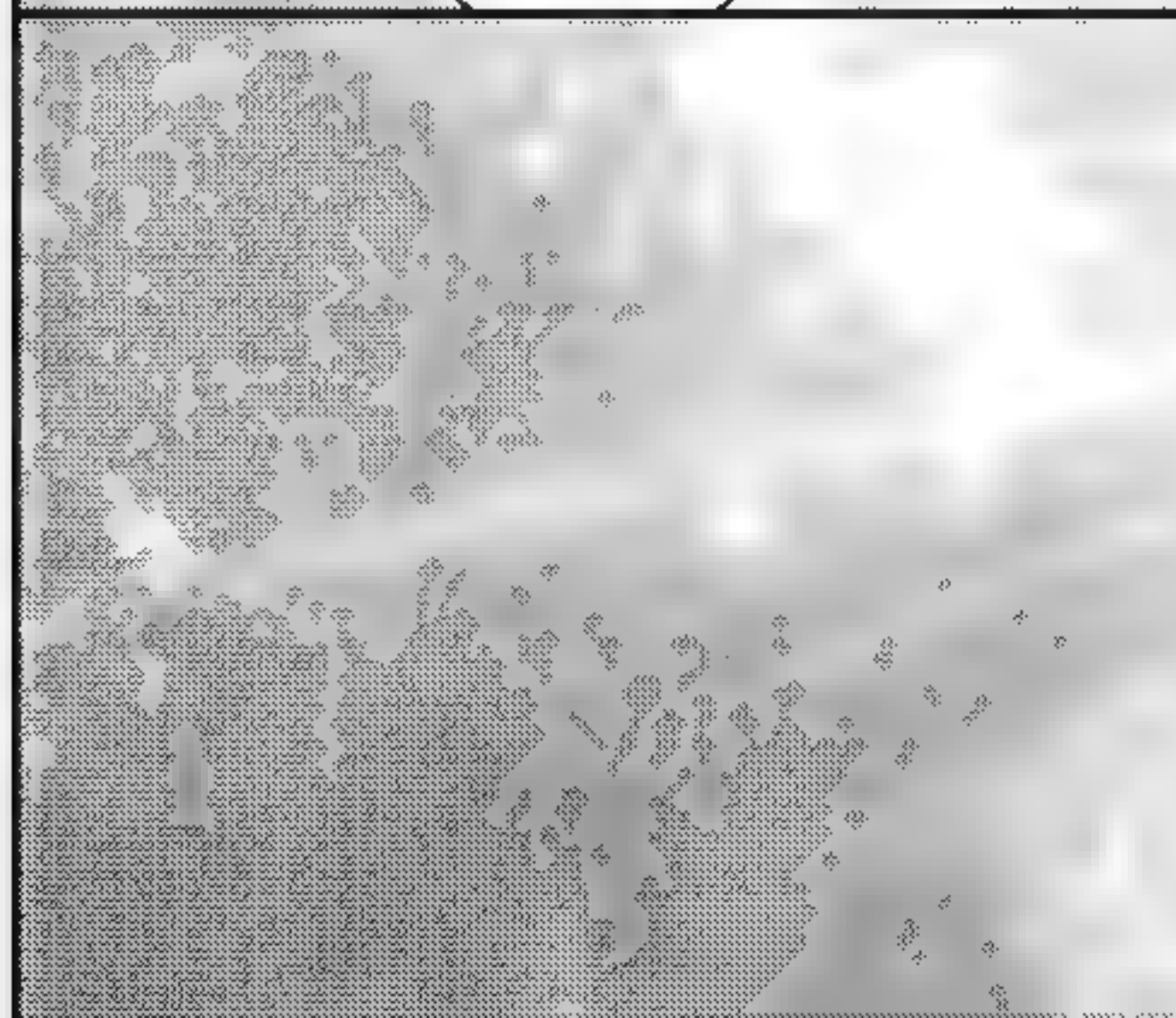
TAIRA NO
KIYOMORI
SOUGHT HER
AS A CON-
CUBINE.

SHE
ACCEPTED ON
THE CONDITION
THAT HER
CHILDREN BE
SPARED.



AND EACH
SENT TO
DIFFERENT
TEMPLES.

BUT HER
THREE
CHILDREN
WERE
SPARED,



LISHIWAKAMARU,
LATER YOSHITSUNE,
WAS SENT HERE
TO KURAMADERA
TEMPLE.

THIS
IS WHERE
YOSHITSUNE
SPENT HIS
CHILDHOOD...

LEGEND
HAS IT...

I'M SURE
YOU KNOW
ALL ABOUT
YOSHITSUNE'S
LATER LIFE

...THAT HIS
AGILE SWORDS-
MANSHIP CAME
FROM TRAINING
WITH THE TENGU
OF KURAMA.

IT'S A
STRANGE
FEELING.

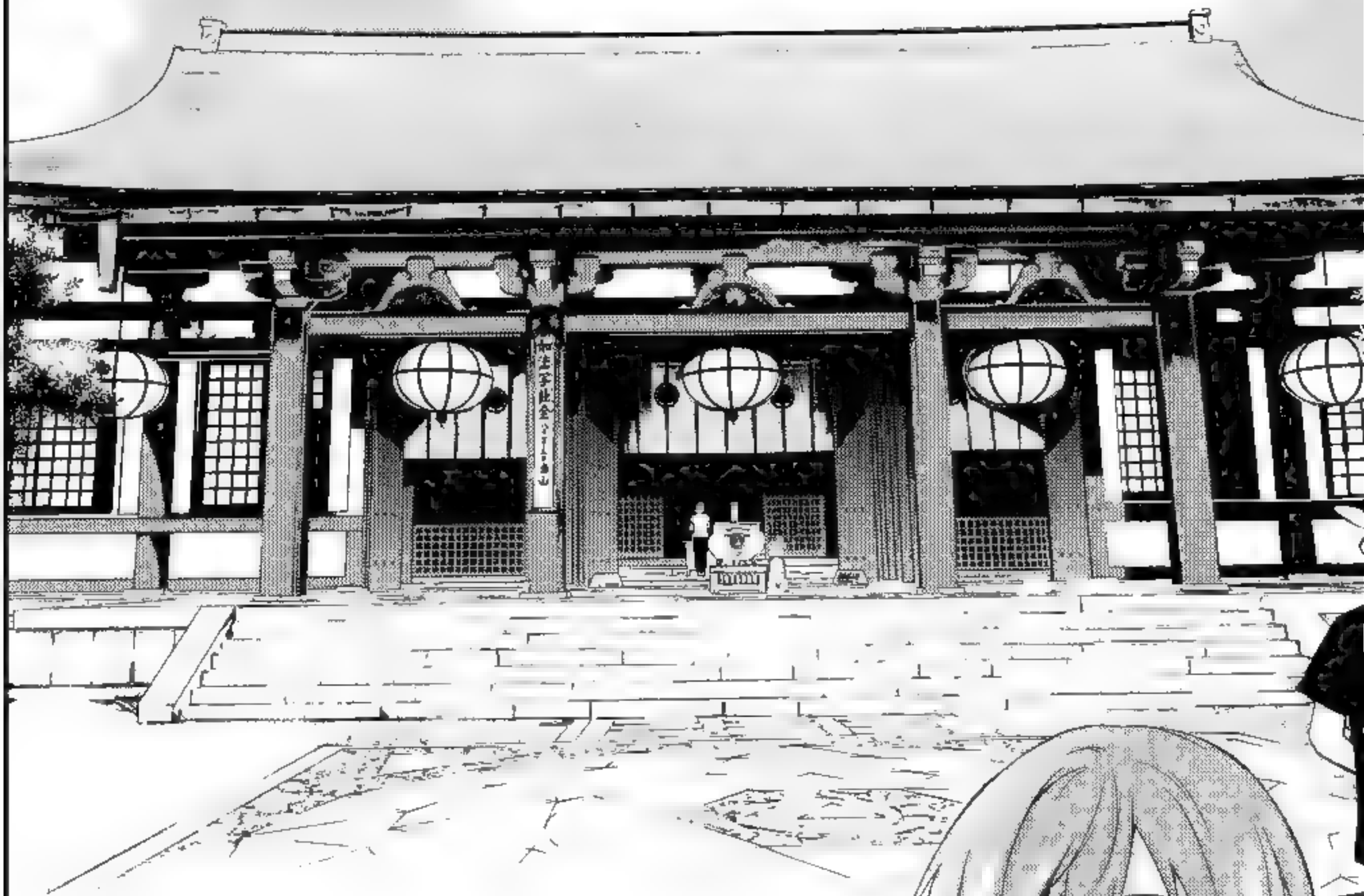
I
MIGHT EVEN
BE WALKING
THE SAME PATH
YOSHITSUNE
ONCE DID...

THE
LITHE AND
BEAUTIFUL
YOUNG
MAN...

FLITTING
THROUGH THE
MOONLIT NIGHT,
FIGHTING...

THIS
IS THE
KIND OF
PLACE...

...WHERE LEGEND,
HISTORY, AND
THE PRESENT ALL
CROSS PATHS.



THIS IS THE
GREAT HALL OF
KURAMADERA
TEMPLE...

IT'S VERY
SIMPLE, BUT
YOU CAN
SENSE THE
HISTORY
HERE.





IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?

NO!



IF I TELL HIM I FELT A CRACKLE IN MY HAND, HE'D JUST SAY, "OF COURSE YOU DID."



...HUH?



CRACKLE



AOI-SAN.



STOP READING MY MIND!

See?!

I DON'T THINK IT'S UNUSUAL...

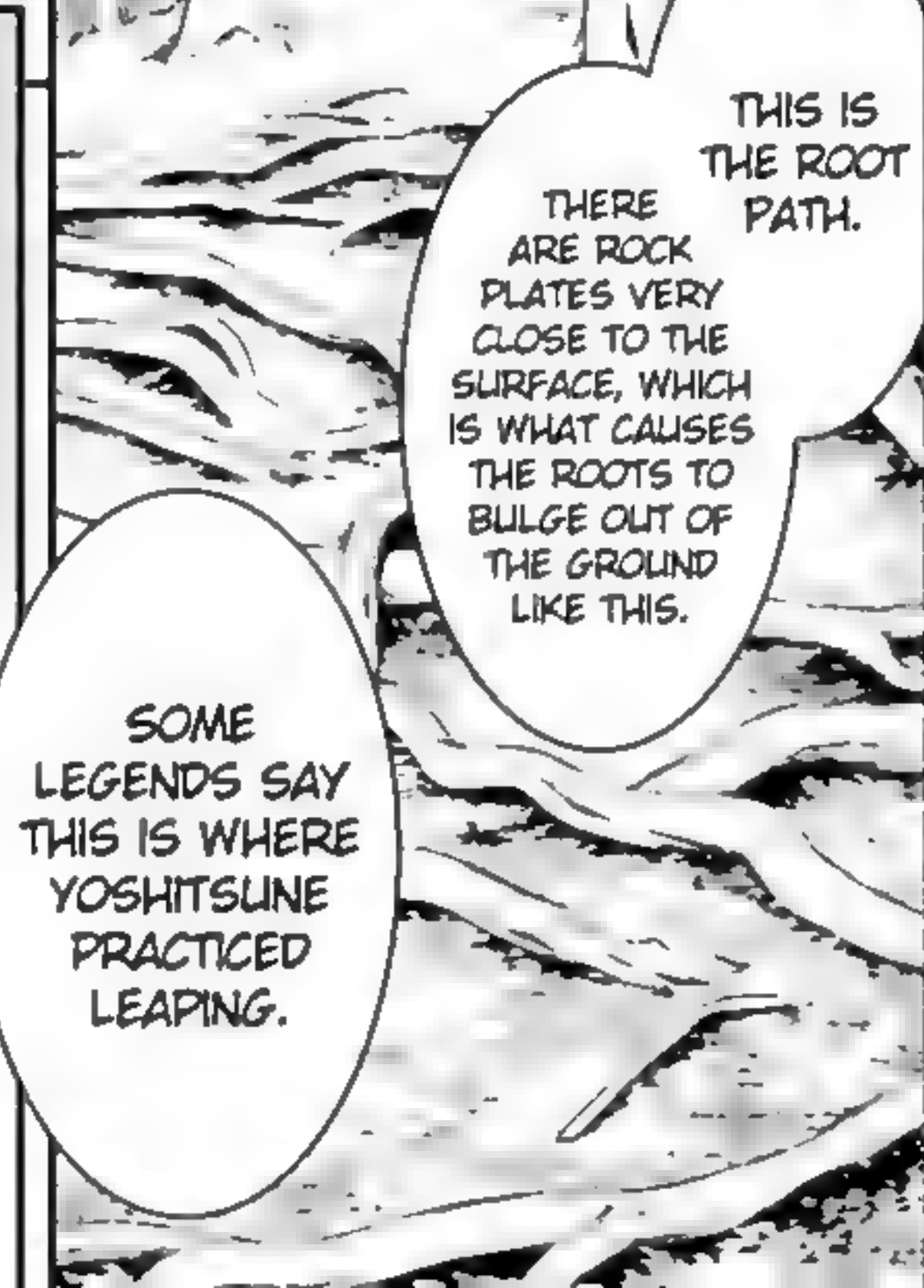
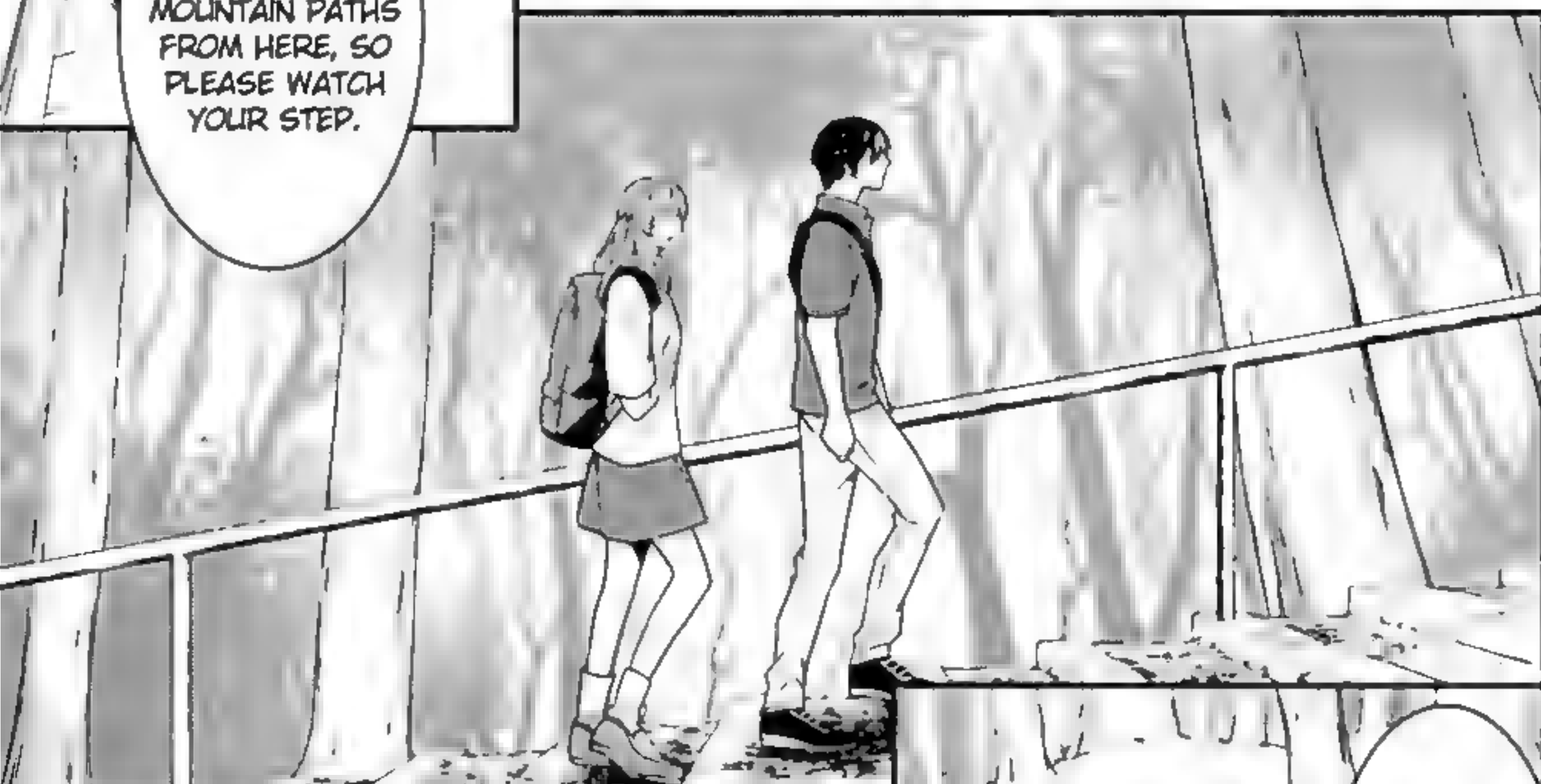
...TO FEEL A MYSTERIOUS POWER IN THIS PLACE.



WE'LL
BE TAKING
MOUNTAIN PATHS
FROM HERE, SO
PLEASE WATCH
YOUR STEP.



NOW, LET
US MAKE
OUR WAY
TO KIFUNE
SHRINE.



THIS IS
THE ROOT
PATH.

THERE
ARE ROCK
PLATES VERY
CLOSE TO THE
SURFACE, WHICH
IS WHAT CAUSES
THE ROOTS TO
BULGE OUT OF
THE GROUND
LIKE THIS.

SOME
LEGENDS SAY
THIS IS WHERE
YOSHITSUNE
PRACTICED
LEAPING.



和歌山県
KUFUNE
SHRINE
貴船神社



ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

We did
say we'd be
hiking...



PANT



THAT
WAS...
REALLY
FAR...

PANT





WHICH DATES
BACK TO THE
MIROMACHI ERA
PICTURE BOOK
"TALES OF
KIFUNE."

IT'S NOW A
WELL-KNOWN
SHRINE FOR
MARRIAGE
AS WELL,



THERE'S A
THEORY THAT
THE ETYMOLOGY
OF KIFUNE IS
"THE LAND
THAT CREATES
ENERGY."

IT'S
BEEN KNOWN
AS A POWER
SPOT FOR MANY
CENTURIES.

KIFUNE IS A
SHRINE THAT
VENERATES
WATER.

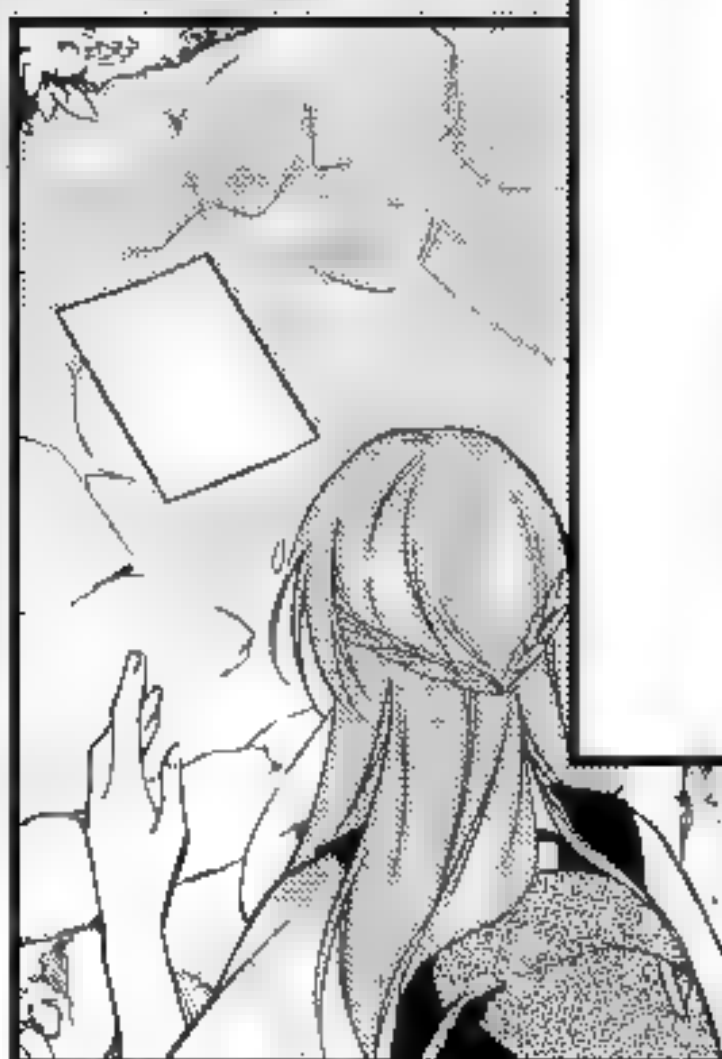


WHILE WE'RE
HERE, LET'S
TRY A WATER
FORTUNE.



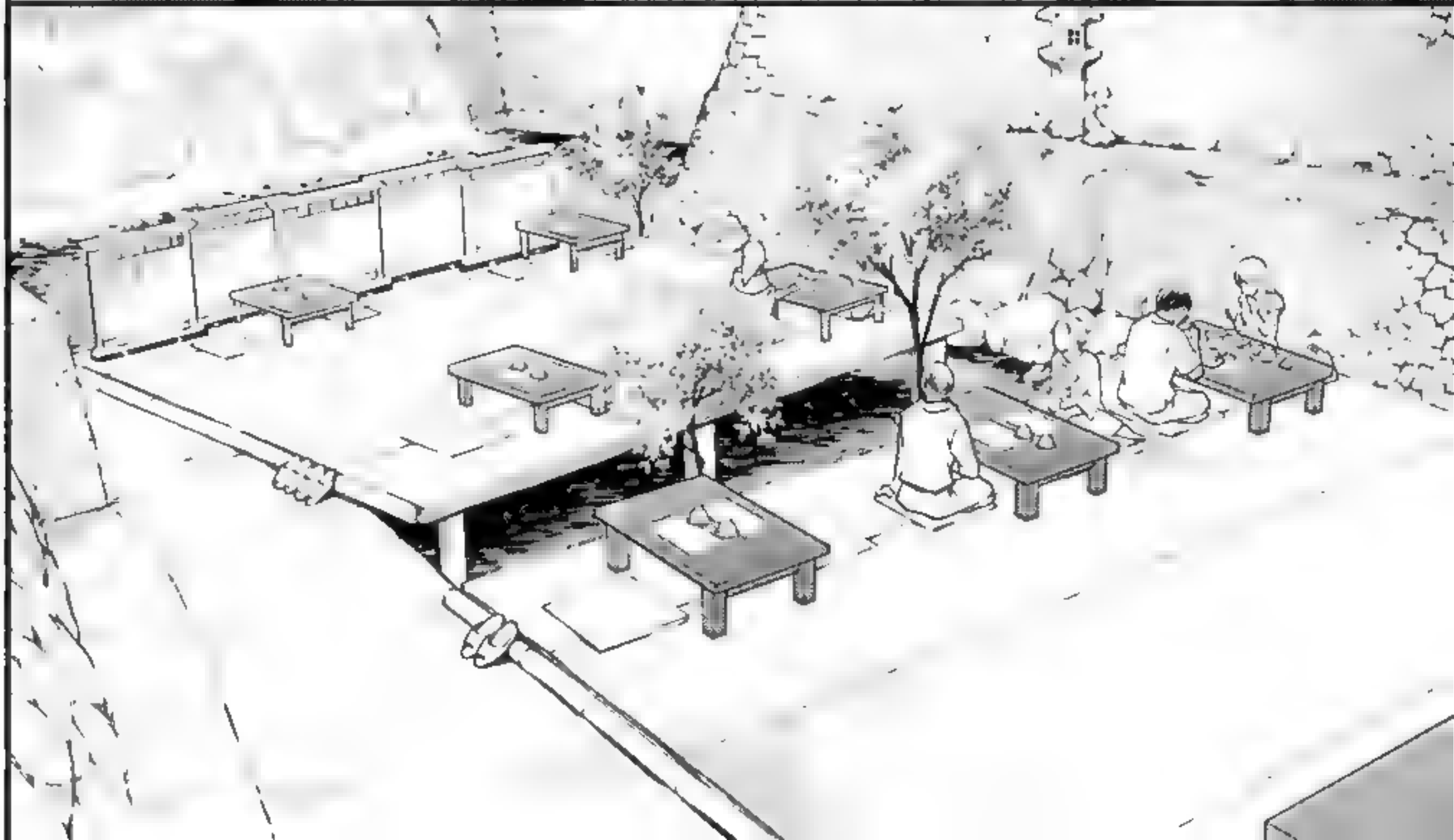
I
RECEIVED
"MODERATE
LUCK."

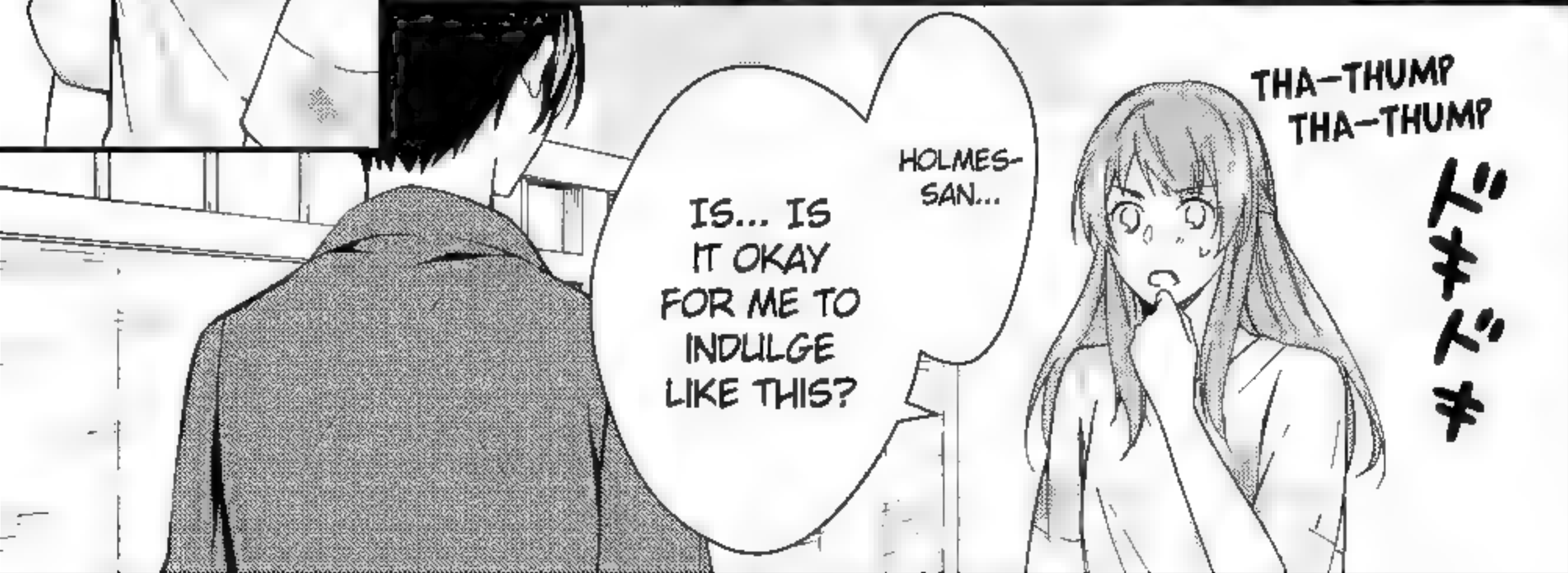
I GOT
"BEST
LUCK"!

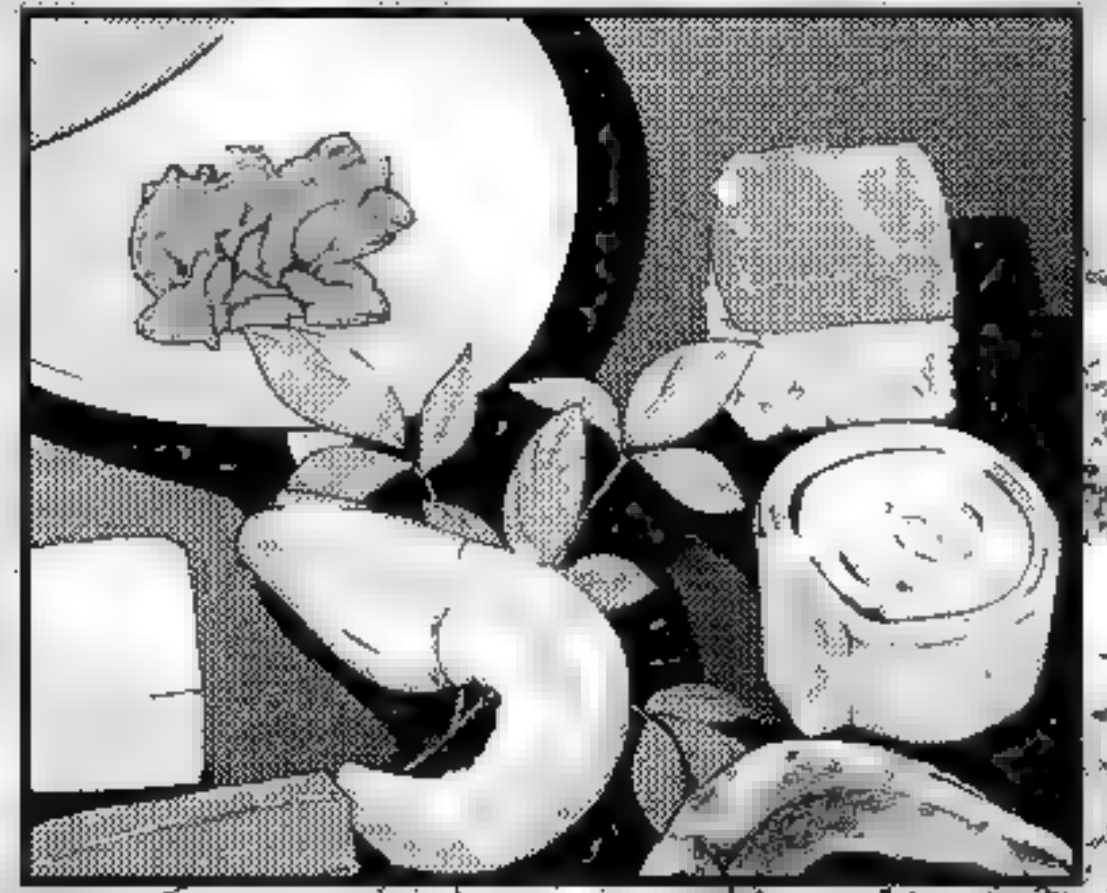
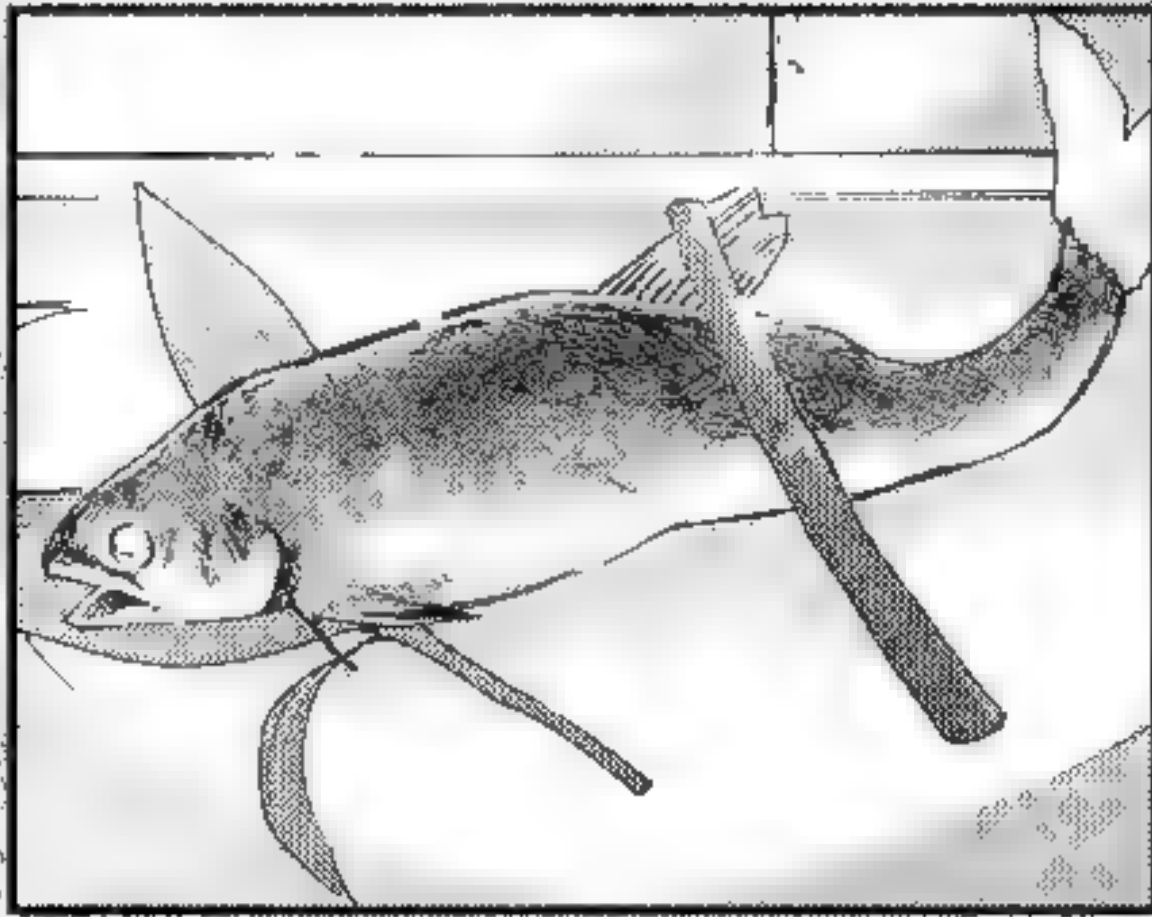




I THINK
IT'S TIME TO
VISIT THE
RESTAURANT.









ALL
DONE!

THAT WAS
DELICIOUS!

IT'S NICE
TO ENJOY
A MEAL OUT
EVERY ONCE
IN A WHILE.

I KNOW
OF LOTS OF
RESTAURANTS
I COULD
RECOMMEND.

I HOPE
WE CAN DO
IT AGAIN
SOMETIME.



I'D
LOVE
THAT.

NOW,
SHALL
WE CALL
A TAXI?

IT'S
QUITE A
WAYS TO
KAJIWARA-
SENSEI'S
VILLA.





ISN'T THAT THE
YAKUZA MOVIE
THAT WAS
MADE INTO
A TV
SERIES?

KAJIWARA-
SENSEI WROTE
THE BOOK IT
WAS BASED
ON.



SPEAKING OF,
WHAT KIND OF
PERSON WAS
KAJIWARA-
SENSEI?



HE WAS
ONE OF MY
FATHER'S
WRITER
FRIENDS.
HAVE YOU
HEARD OF A
NOVEL CALLED
**POWER
STRUGGLE?**



...THAT
**POWER
STRUGGLE**
WAS INSPIRED
BY THOSE
EXPERIENCES.

I READ IN AN
INTERVIEW HE
GAVE ONCE...

HIS JOB
FREQUENTLY
PUT HIM IN
CONTACT WITH
THE CRIMINAL
UNDERWORLD.

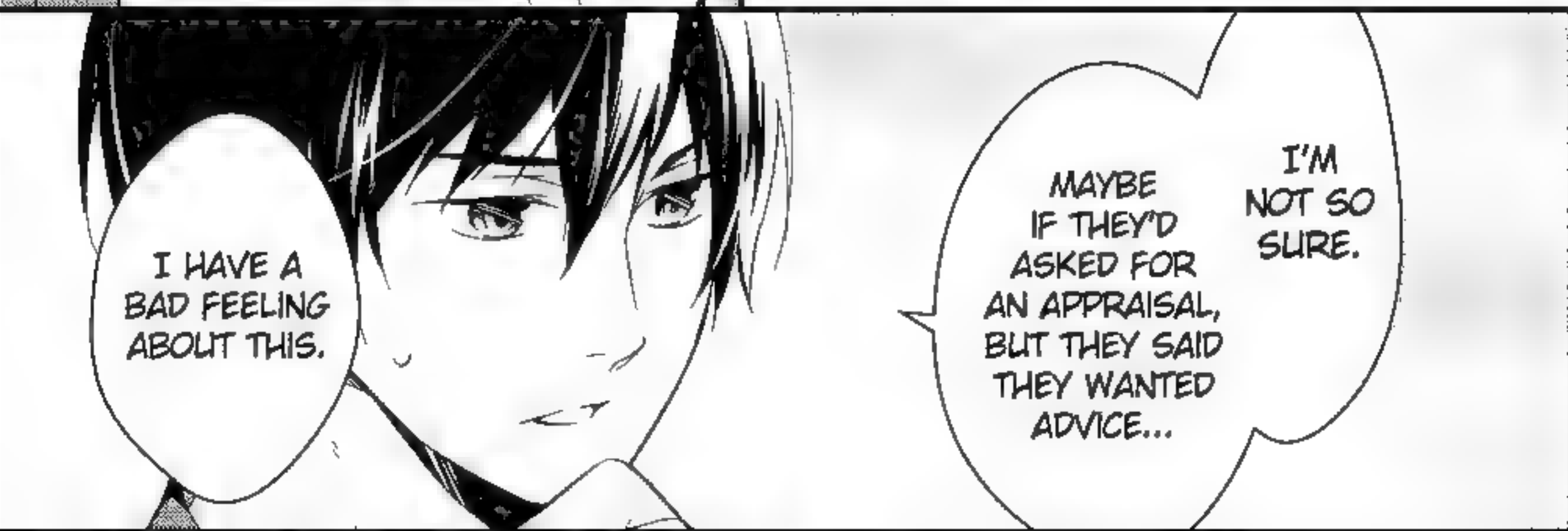
BUT BEFORE
HE BECAME
A WRITER,
KAJIWARA-
SENSEI WAS
A LAWYER.



...BLOSSOMING
MULTITUDES
AND FORBIDDEN
FRUIT.

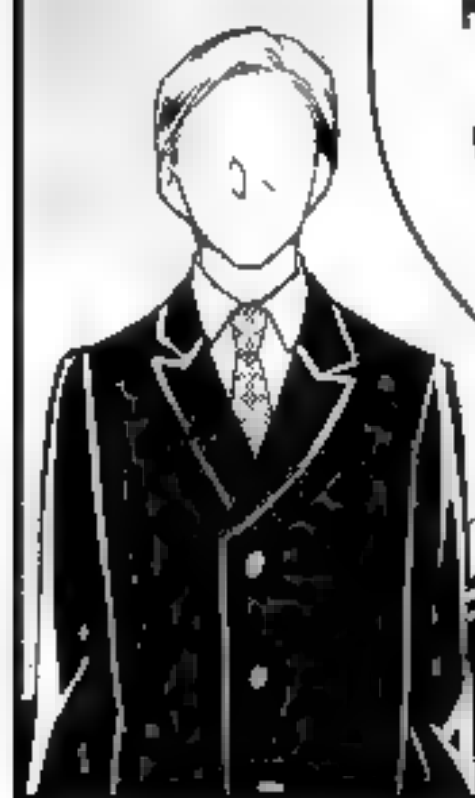
SOME OF
HIS OTHER
BEAUTIFUL
STORIES
INCLUDE...

HIS WORKS
ARE LARGER
THAN LIFE, AND IT
SEEMS HE WAS
EVERY BIT THE
SAME.





THIS
IS WHERE
KAJIWARA-
SENSEI
WORKED?!



I
APPRECIATE
YOU COMING
OUT HERE ON
SUCH SHORT
NOTICE.



Secretary:
Kurashina Yohei

THANK YOU
FOR COMING
OUT TO PICK
US UP.

NOT AT
ALL.





PLEASE,
COME IN.

EVERYONE
IS WAITING.



HE
EVEN HAD
A PERSONAL
SECRETARY

...
KAJIWARA-
SENSEI
MUST'VE
BEEN A
REALLY
SUCCESSFUL
WRITER.

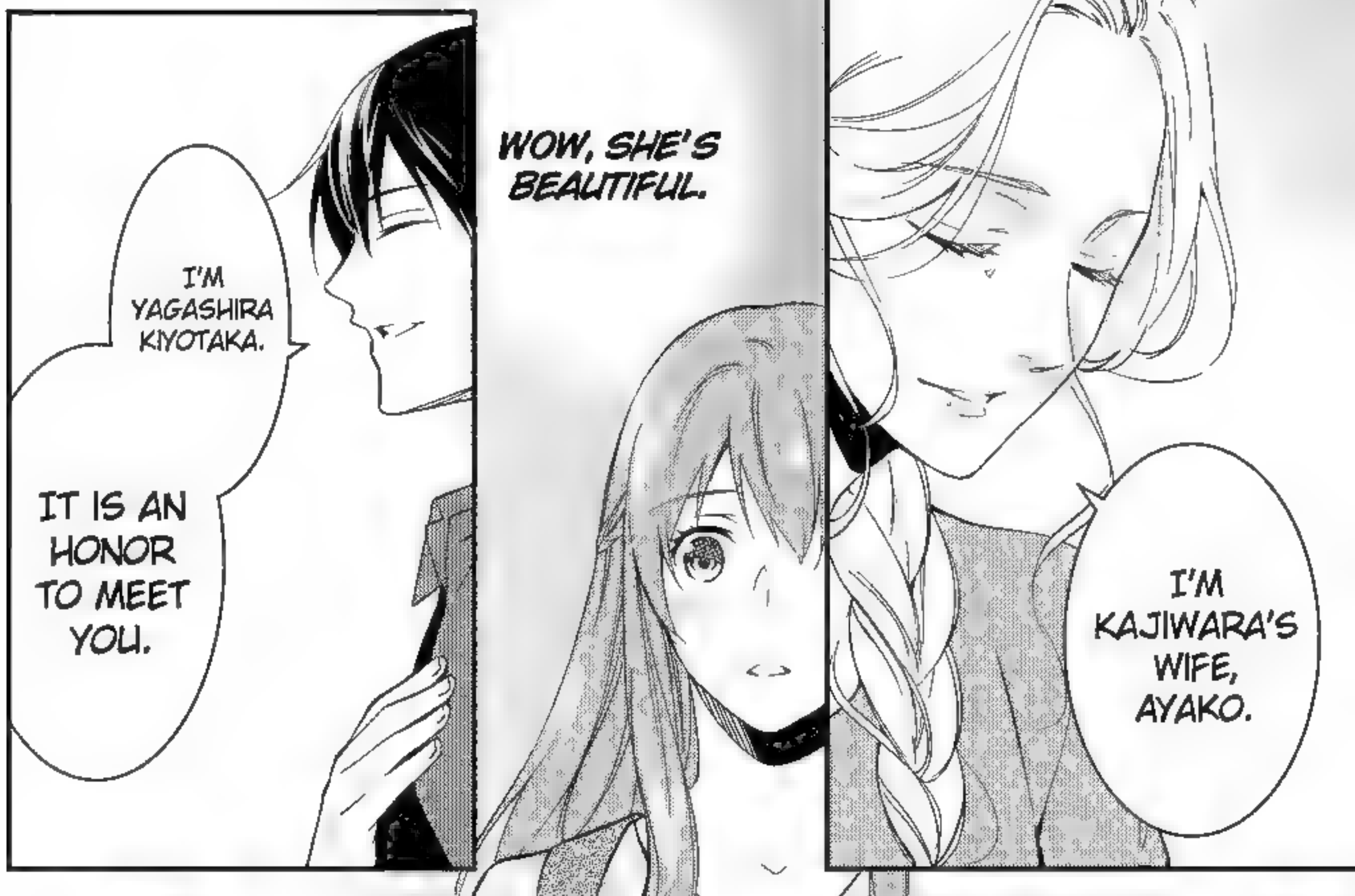


EVERY-
ONE?



OH,
HELLO.

THANK
YOU SO MUCH
FOR COMING,
YAGASHIRA-
SAN.





YOUR
GIRL-
FRIEND?

THIS IS OUR
PART-TIMER
AT KURA...

MASHIRO
AOI.



REALLY?
BUT YOU'D
MAKE
A LOVELY
COUPLE.

C-
CERTAINLY
NOT!



HELLO
THERE.

I'M THE
ELDEST,
FUYUKI.

COME
ON IN.

STOP IT,
MOM.

YOU'RE EM-
BARRASSING
HER.



AND THE
YOUNGEST,
HARUHIKO.

THIS IS MY
YOUNGER
BROTHER
AKIHITO.



I
SEE THE
FAMILY IS
ALL HERE,
THEN.

?



HEH...
SO YOU'RE
THE ONE?



THE TRUTH IS,
THIS IS RELATED
TO WHAT WE'RE
SEEKING ADVICE
ABOUT...

YES...



ALLOW
ME TO
EXPLAIN.



THREE
MONTHS
LATER?

THE
SECOND
CAME
WITH THE
PROPOSAL
THAT IS
ONLY BE
OFFERED

...THREE
MONTHS
LATER HERE
AT THIS
VILLA.

ONE WAS
THE STANDARD
KIND REGARDING
THE DIVISION OF
HIS ASSETS.

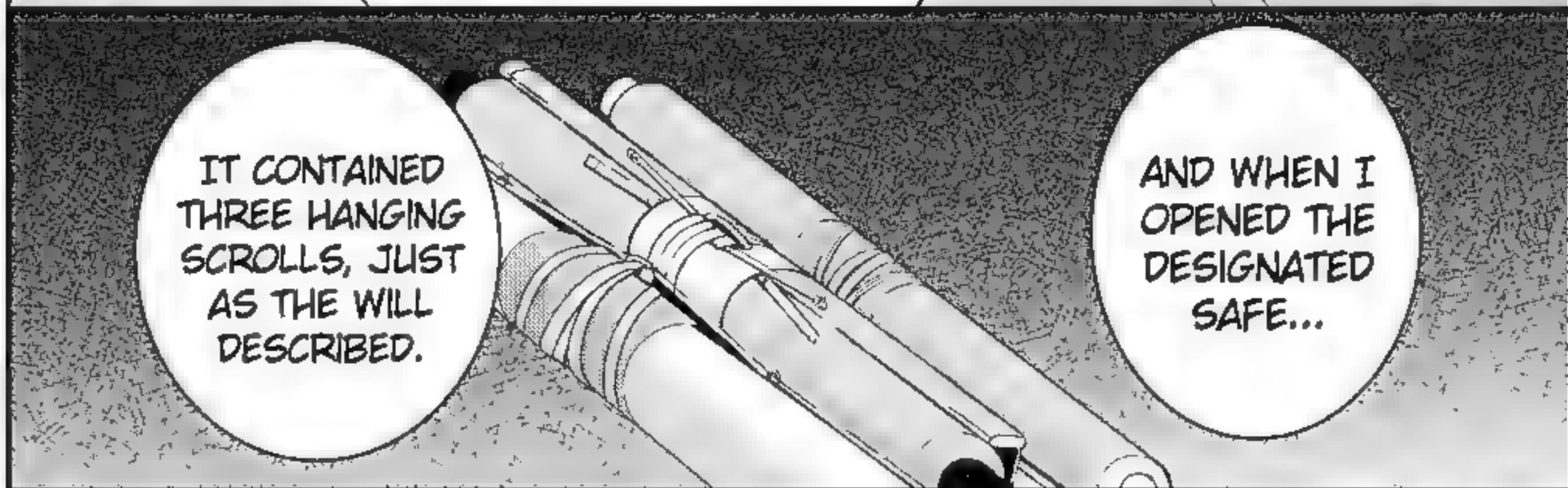
THREE
MONTHS AGO,
KAJIWARA-
SENSEI WAS
TAKEN BY
ILLNESS.

WHEN
HE PASSED,
HE LEFT
BEHIND TWO
WILLS.



IT READ,
"I WANT TO GIVE
THESE PICTURES
THAT I TREASURED
TO EACH OF MY
SONS."

WE'VE NOW
REACHED
THAT TIME,
SO
I OPENED
THE SECOND
WILL HERE.



IT CONTAINED
THREE HANGING
SCROLLS, JUST
AS THE WILL
DESCRIBED.

AND WHEN I
OPENED THE
DESIGNATED
SAFE...



HUH?
THEY'VE
ALREADY
BEEN
APPRAISED?

NO, WE'VE
ALREADY
HAD THEM
APPRAISED.

SO
YOU WANT
ME TO
APPRAISE
THE
SCROLLS?



...WORTH
ALMOST
NOTHING.

THEY WERE
ALL REPRO-
DUCTIONS...



I
RECEIVED A
PAINTING OF
TAIRA NO
KIYOMORI.

AKIHITO GOT
A HOKUSAI
PAINTING OF
MT. FUJI,

AND
HARUHIKO
GOT ONE OF
TAIRA NO
TADAMORI.



AT
LEAST,
AT
FIRST...

SO WE
FIGURED HE
WAS JUST
GIVING US
SOME
PICTURES
HE LIKED.



BUT
THAT'S
WHY YOU
CALLED
HIM HERE,
RIGHT?

AKIHITO!

JUST
GET TO
THE
POINT.

OH,
COME
ON.

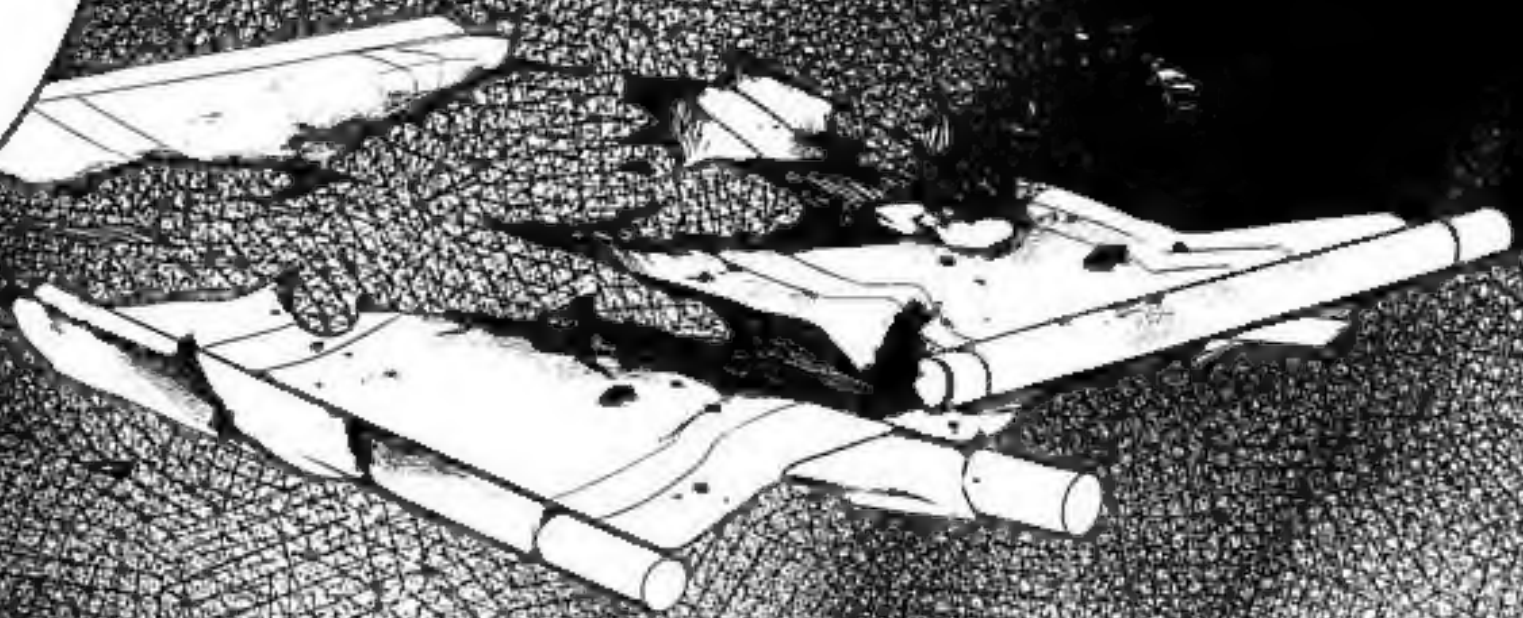


SO,
WHAT
IS THE
POINT?



TWO
DAYS
AGO...

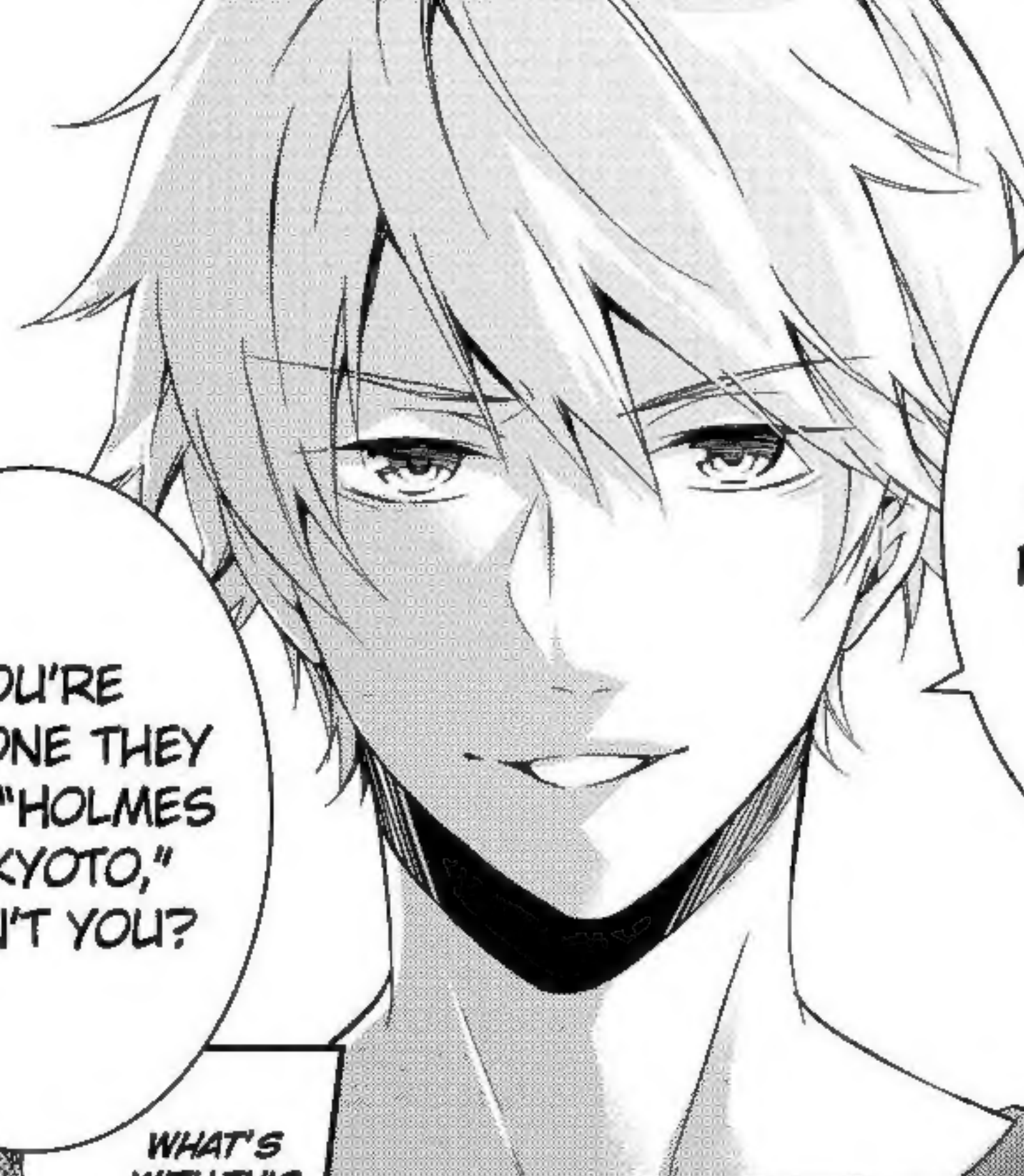
SOMEONE
BURNED
ALL THREE
SCROLLS.



HE
RELAYED
TO US THE
RUMORS
ABOUT
KIYOTAKA-
SAN,
AND...

WE WEREN'T
SURE WHAT
TO DO, SO WE
ASKED THE
APPRAISER
FOR ADVICE.





YOU'RE
THE ONE THEY
CALL "HOLMES
OF KYOTO,"
AREN'T YOU?

IN OTHER
WORDS, WE
WANT YOU TO
FIND OUT WHO
BURNED THE
SCROLLS.



WHAT'S
WITH THIS
GUY?

↳
HMPH



...

I AM NOT
A DETECTIVE,
NOR AM I
A POLICE
OFFICER.



WAIT,
DO YOU
MEAN...



BUT
WE HAVE
REASON TO
BELIEVE IT
WASN'T AN
INTRUDER.

WELL, IT'LL
BECOME
CLEARER
ONCE I
EXPLAIN
THE REST,



THAT'S ALL
THE MORE
REASON...



The page is a black and white manga spread. It features five character portraits: a girl with short dark hair on the left, a boy with dark wavy hair at the top center, a boy with light hair at the top right, a boy with light hair at the bottom left, and a girl with long light hair at the bottom right. In the center, a hand is shown pointing to a scroll that has been partially burned. The text is written in a bold, sans-serif font within a speech bubble-like shape.

**THE PERSON
WHO BURNED
THE SCROLLS...
IS IN THIS
ROOM?**

**CHAPTER 5
END**